

Technology Report

August, 2022

Grants

The fund requests for the 2021/2022 E-rate grants have been submitted. We are still waiting for ECF grants to be approved.

SCLS O365 email update

Microsoft will retire Basic Authentication in October 2022. SCLS staff have contacted library staff whose accounts are still using Basic Auth. Information about this project: [Modern Authentication for O365](#). SCLS staff have also begun to investigate implementing additional security measures for O365 accounts.

Drupal 9 migration

Live Drupal 9 sites (August): [CBR](#), [ALB](#), [Beyond The Page](#), [DCL](#), [STO](#)

We are approaching the halfway point for the library website migrations. There are 48 library sites, and by the end of August (if everything goes as planned), we will have migrated 24 sites.

The summer migrations have reinforced that 1 site migration per week is the way to go, so we will stick with this for the remainder of the project. Kerri contacted the sites that were originally scheduled for spring to reschedule them. At the rate of 1 site per week, we anticipate the library site migrations will finish up in late February or early March. <https://www.scls.info/drupal-9-migration-schedule>

Thanks again for everyone's flexibility with the scheduling. This was a huge project (with a surprising number of technical hurdles – and the pleasant surprise of an extended deadline!) and we really, really appreciate how wonderfully patient, understanding, and encouraging everyone has been as timelines have shifted.

Server updates

Some of our behind-the-scenes servers used for ILS database backups and reports received OS upgrades on August 9. On August 23, some servers hosting public-facing services (proxy services, authentication, iboss scripting, Don't Miss Lists, MyPC) also received OS upgrades.

Content Filtering Solution

SCLS staff held 2 meetings with libraries on 8/9 and 8/11 to share final configuration details for the new filtering product. The recording and slides from these meetings can be found on the Filtering FAQ page: <https://www.scls.info/untangle-filtering-faq>. The filtering pilot has been pushed out into September.

Data Services

Library service & salary data comparisons: I worked on multiple data requests from SCLS libraries for information on peer libraries, focusing on salary data for equivalent positions. In the most recent

reports, I have incorporated the latest Annual Report service data released by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, covering 2021. The frequency of these requests and their similarity have inspired planning for a long-term project to simplify and perhaps automate the data collection and compilation processes.

Mount Horeb Public Library strategic planning: I fulfilled a request from Jessica Gretzinger, Mount Horeb Public Library Director, for population forecasts and comparative service data visualizations to include in the Library's strategic plan.

- For population forecasts, I used an exponential smoothing method to generate models of population trends in Mount Horeb, both overall and for specific demographic groups. I did all of this work, including data visualization, with packages available in the R programming language.
- Using Tableau, I developed an interactive service data dashboard that compares year-to-year trends in Mount Horeb's data to cumulative trends among various groups of libraries. The comparison groups include peer SCLS libraries, Dane County libraries, all SCLS libraries, and all Wisconsin libraries. The dashboard also allows users to select a specific metric to compare, such as Total Circulation, Total Collection Expenditures, or library program and attendance counts.

- Tim Drexler

Scripting and Reports Team

Python version upgrade: The Scripting & Reports Team has continued testing scripts, writing documentation, and completing other work to prepare for Python version 3.9 upgrades on internal scripting servers. The next project milestone will be installing 3.9 on a test server, scheduled for late August. We will follow the installation with further testing on running scripts in Python virtual environments using batch files and scheduled tasks.

- Tim Drexler

ESET Endpoint Security Migration

A new version of ESET will be deployed in September.

MyPC

We will be upgrading all components of our time and print service. TBS will upgrade the server software on August 30th and 31st. SCLS will test and deploy upgrades to the MyPC client, PaperCut client and Guest Pass utility after the server upgrades.

Windows 11 Pro

Windows 11 Pro was officially released by Microsoft in October of 2021. SCLS has put together a team to develop a Windows 11 configuration for new staff and patron PCs. Windows 11 is a free upgrade for Windows 10 PCs. We have not decided yet if existing PCs will be upgraded to Windows 11.

Help Desk Software Replacement

The Help Desk Portal replacement "Service Desk" will be going live on Tuesday, September 6th.